

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MADRID 01434 01 OF 02 050935Z

12

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IO-14 DRC-01 SAJ-01 /116 W

----- 117623

P R 041741Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8289

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

US MISSION USEC BRUSSELS 801

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 MADRID 1434

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PFOR SP

SUBJECT: EXECUTION OF SPANISH ANARCHIST AND POLISH SEAMAN

REF: MADRID 1414

1. SUMMARY: FOLLOWING CABINET DECISION MARCH 1, BARCELONA ANARCHIST SALVADOR PUIG ANTICH AND POLISH SEAMAN, HEINZ CHEZ, WERE EXECUTED MARCH 2 FOR KILLING OF TWO POLICEMEN. EXERCISING HIS PREROGATIVE OF PARDON, FRANCO COMMUTED DEATH SENTENCE FOR ANTONIO FRANCO MARTIN, A CIVIL GUARD MEMBER WHO KILLED A CIVIL GUARD CAPTAIN IN 1973. MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND TOURISM TOLD PRESS, WHEN ASKED ABOUT POSSIBLE ADVERSE FOREIGN REACTION THAT GOS COULD NOT BE INFLUENCED BY ANY FOREIGN VIEWS IN CARRYING OUT DOMESTIC JUSTICE. IN REPORTING DETAILS AND BACKGROUND OF CRIMES, SPANISH PRESS REPORTED ATTACKS AGAINST SPANISH EMBASSIES OR FIRMS IN ROME, PARIS AND BRUSSELS. THERE HAVE BEEN SMALL DEMONSTRATIONS IN BARCELONA WHICH WERE QUICKLY DISPERSED BY POLICE AND TWO REPORTED BOMB
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MADRID 01434 01 OF 02 050935Z

INCIDENTS. CABINET ALSO DECIDED TO OBLIGE ALL IMANISH

BANKS TO UPGRADE SECURITY MEASURES IN WAKE OF AN UNUSUAL INCIDENCE OF BANK ROBBERIES. ON DAY OF EXECUTION MINISTER OF INTERIOR AND VICE PRESIDENT, GARCIA HERNANDEZ, AT CEREMONY HONORING POLICE VICTIM IN PRESIDENT CARRERO BLANCO'S ASSINATION, PLEDGED THAT MARTYRDOM IN DEFENSE OF PUBLIC ORDER WOULD NOT BE IN VAIN AND THAT GOS WOULD ENSURE INTERNAL PEACE "AT ANY COST". END SUMMARY.

2. REGULAR WEEKLY COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING MARCH 1 DECIDED TO CARRY OUT DEATH SENTENCES IN THREE OUTSTANDING CASES: (1) PUIG ANTICH FOR HAVING KILLED A POLICEMAN IN SEPTEMBER 1973; (2) HEINZ CHEZ, A POLISH NATIONAL WHO WAS SENTENCED IN SEPTEMBER 1973 FOR KILLING OF A CIVIL GUARD OFFICER IN DECEMBER 1972; (3) AND ANTONIO FRANCO MARTIN, A CIVIL GUARD MEMBER, WHO WAS CONDEMNED IN JANUARY 1974 FOR KILLING OF A CIVIL GUARD CAPTAIN IN OCTOBER 1973. IN ACCORDANCE WITH MILITARY CODE OF JUSTICE, PUIG AND CHEZ WERE EXECUTED WITHIN 12 HOURS OF CABINET NOTIFICATION ON MORNING OF MARCH 2. EXERCISING HIS PREROGATIVE OF PARDON, CHIEF OF STATE FRANCO ISSUED DECREE MARCH 2 COMMUTING FRANCO MARTIN'S DEATH SENTENCE. BOTH PUIG AND CHEZ WERE EXECUTED BY GARROTE, RESPECTIVELY IN BARCELONA AND TARRAGONA. PUBLIC SECURITY FORCES, SOME ARMED WITH MACHINE GUNS, WERE MUCH IN EVIDENCE IN BARCELONA AND MADRID. US CONGEN REPORTED THAT SOME DEMONSTRATORS HAD GATHERED IN VARIOUS PLACES IN BARCELONA, BUT WERE PROMPTLY DISPERSED BY POLICE. THESE WERE FIRST EXECUTIONS IN SPAIN SINCE JANUARY 2, 1972, WHEN SOLDIER, WHO HAD KILLED A STOREKEEPER AND HIS DAUGHTER, WAS KILLED BY FIRING SQUAD. LAST USE OF GARROTE WAS IN 1966 IN EXECUTION OF MURDERER OF SERGEANT IN CIVIL GUARD.

3. MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND TOURISM, PIO CABANILLAS, HELD LATE EVENING PRESS CONFERENCE MARCH 1, AND, PRESUMABLY IN RESPONSE TO RUMORS ABOUT DISAGREEMENT IN COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, SAID THAT DECISIONS REACHED IN CABINET MEETING WERE CONSIDERED AS COLLECTIVE DECISIONS. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION FROM FOREIGN CORRESPONDENT ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF ADVERSE FOREIGN REACTION TO EXECUTIONS, CABONILLAS SAID THAT GOS COULD NOT ALLOW ITSELF TO BE INFLUENCED IN ANY WAY BY FOREIGN CONSIDERATIONS IN CARRYING OUT INTERNAL JUSTICE. CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MADRID 01434 01 OF 02 050935Z

ACCORDING TO PRESS, POLISH SEAMAN, ALTHOUGH PROVIDED DEFENSE BY GOS, RECEIVED NO SUPPORT OR COMFORT FROM HIS HOMELAND.

4. LOCAL PRESS MARCH 3 AND 4 REPORTED THAT FIVE INCENDIARY BOMBS HAD BEEN THROWN AGAINST SPANISH EMBASSY IN ROME MARCH 2. SPANISH WORKERS REPORTEDLY ATTACKED SPANISH EMBASSY IN LUXEMBOURG AND ASSAULTED SEVERAL MEMBERS OF THE STAFF. 200 PEOPLE REPORTEDLY IN DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST SPANISH EMBASSY

IN BRUSSELS WHERE THREE SUBSIDIARIES OF BANCO ESPANOL WERE
ATTACKED WITH INFLAMMABLE MATERIALS. SPECIAL SECURITY
MEASURES HAVE BEEN REPORTEDLY TAKEN TO PROTECT SPANISH
EMBASSY IN PARIS AND BRUSSELS. FRG POLITICAL COUNSELOR TOLD
EMBASSY OFFICER HE HAD RECOMMENDED PROTECTIVE MEASURES FOR
SPANISH INSTALLATIONS IN GERMANY. ACCORDING TO LOCAL
PRESS, MARCH 4, A POWERFUL EXPLOSION TOOK PLACE DURING
NIGHT OF MARCH 3 AGAINST THE ARTILLERY BARRACKS LOCATED AT
SAN ANDRES IN BARCELONA. THERE WERE NO INJURIES. ACCORDING
TO LEADING LAWYER, NATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION WILL STUDY
PROPOSAL BY BARCELONA AFFILIATE TO APPOINT SPECIAL COMMISSION
TO INVESTIGATE CONSEQUENCES OF GOVERNMENT'S DECISION.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MADRID 01434 02 OF 02 050954Z

12

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAJ-01 IO-14 DRC-01 /116 W

----- 117767

P R 041741Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8290

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

US MISSION USEC BRUSSELS 802

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 MADRID 1434

5. CABINET ALSO DECIDED MARCH 1 TO OBLIGE ALL BANKS TO APPOINT
SECURITY OFFICER, EMPLOY ARMED GUARDS, TO INSTALL SIGNALS
LINKED WITH POLICE PRECINCTS, ETC. ACCORDING TO AVAILABLE
STATISTICS, WHERE WERE 87 BANK ROBBERIES IN SPAIN IN 1973,
THE LARGEST NUMBER IN HISTORY AND THEY HAVE ALREADY INCREASED
IN NUMBER IN 1974. PUIG ANTICH WAS INVOLVED IN ONE OF

THESE ROBBERIES. (THREE MEN ROBBED A BANK OF \$53,000, LEAVING BEHIND A TIME-BOMB, ON THE DAY OF THE CABINET'S DECISION TO EXECUTE PUIG.)

6. ON DAY OF EXECUTIONS, MARCH 2, MINISTER OF INTERIOR AND VICE PRESIDENT, GARCIA HERNANDEZ, OFFICIATED AT CEREMONY HONORING POLICE INSPECTOR WHO WAS KILLED IN ASSASSINATION OF CARRERO BLANCO, DEC 20, 1973. IN PRESENCE OF DIRECTOR GENERAL OF SECURITY

AND DEPUTY HEAD OF CIVIL GUARD, MINISTER, IN REFERRING TO DEATH OF POLICE OFFICERS, SAID THE "THE EXAMPLE OF THESE MARYTRS OF THE DEFENSE OF ORDER AND PEACE WOULD NOT BE IN VAIN."
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MADRID 01434 02 OF 02 050954Z

HE WENT ON TO AFFIRM THAT GOS WOULD PRESERVE PEACE AND ORDER "AT ANY COST".

7. COMMENT: NEW ARIAS NAVARRO GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN DECISIVE IN DEMONSTRATING ITS WILL TO PRESERVE LAW AND ORDER. ALTHOUGH SUBJECTED TO DOMESTIC AND SOME EXTERNAL PRESSURE, IN FORM OF DEMARCHES BY DUTCH, BELGIANS, ITALIANS AND COMMON MARKET, AND APPEALS BY SPANISH SOCIALIST TO FRG CHANCELLOR FOR INTERVENTION, GOVT DECIDED TO PROCEED WITH EXECUTIONS AS DEMANDED BY MILITARY TRIBUNALS, ALL THREE DEATH SENTENCES, INCLUDING THE COMMUTED ONE, INVOLVED THE KILLING OF EITHER CIVIL GUARD OR POLICE OFFICIALS. NEW MINISTER OF INTERIOR, JUDGING BY HIS REMARKS MARCH 2, OBVIOUSLY DOES NOT INTEND TO JEOPARDIZE NEW GOVERNMENT'S RELATIONS WITH CIVIL GUARD BY LENIENCY IN CASES INVOLVING KILLING OF CIVIL GUARD MEMBERS.

8. BY LINKING EXECUTION OF PUIG WITH NEED TO STRENGTHEN SECURITY OF BANKS AGAINST WAVE OF ROBBERIES, GOS HAS MADE OBVIOUS APPEAL TO POPULATIONS INCLINATION TO SUPPORT ALMOST ANYTHING WHICH WOULD PRESERVE PUBLIC ORDER. PUIG'S INVOLVEMENT WITH ANARCHIST IBERIAN LIBERATION MOVEMENT (MIL) HAS NOT BEEN HIGHLIGHTED. GOS PRESUMABLY HOPES TO PROJECT SENTENCE AND EXECUTION IN LIGHT OF NON-POLITICAL CIVIL CRIME. IMPORTANT OBJECTIVE OF GOVERNMENT IS PREVENTION OF BANK ROBBERIES BY POLITICAL GROUPS SUCH AS MIL AND BASQUE LIBERATION MOVEMENT (ETA). MANY OF BANK ROBBERIES IN PAST YEAR HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT FOR PURPOSE OF OBTAINING FUNDS TO FINANCE THESE EXTREMIST GROUPS.
RIVERO

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CRIMES, PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, CAPITAL PUNISHMENT, BOMBING, PRESS COMMENTS, EXECUTIONS, TRIALS, ARRESTS, CRIME PREVENTION, ELECTRONIC SECURITY DEVICES, BANKS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MADRID01434
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: MADRID
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740371/aaaacnnz.tel
Line Count: 215
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: MADRID 1414
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 MAR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 MAR 2002 by collinp0>; APPROVED <04 JUN 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EXECUTION OF SPANISH ANARCHIST AND POLISH SEAMEN
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, SP, (ANTICH, PUIG), (CHEZ, HEINZ), (MARTIN, ANTONIO FRANCO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005